

REMARKS

The Examiner's Office Action has been thoroughly considered. By way of the amendments herein, Applicants believe their application to be in condition for allowance. In the instant Office Action, the Examiner rejected to Claims 1 through 5 and 7 through 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Byrne et al., in view of Feuerstein et al. The Examiner objected to Claims 6, 11 and 12 as being allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

To expedite the prosecution of the instant application, Applicant have amended Claim 1 and Claim 7, which correspond to the previously objected to dependent Claims 6 and 11, incorporating all of the limitations of the intervening claims. Applicant also introduces new independent Claim 13, which corresponds to the previously objected to dependent Claim 12, incorporating all of the limitations of the intervening claims. Applicant has withdrawn the remaining claims from consideration without prejudice. Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional/continuation in order to prosecute these claims, as well as other claims of differing scope than the claims amended herein, within another application.

Applicant believes that a full and complete response has been made to Examiner's Office Action. Thus, in view of the hereinabove remarks, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of their patent application and its claims. To that end, if the Examiner feels that a conference might expedite the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is cordially invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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